

We believe that EAS messages and tests should be retransmitted only in English; multi-lingual translations are time consuming and labor intensive and for the information to be relayed in a timely manner, making such requirements on broadcasters are simply not practical. The determination as to which languages will be used is a subject for debate. Based upon census figures for example and what percentage of the population? We suggest that transmitting the context of the message in English is sufficient to spread the warning. Consider that NOAA only transmits weather warning in English and we simply carry what they send to us via the system.

Stations that broadcast in a particular foreign language might be better equipped and staffed to rephrase warning messages in that particular language but not in several languages as the present proposal suggests! (Multi-Lingual).

We are also concerned about which “officials” beside NOAA and the Governor (or designee) should be authorized to activate the EAS. FCC approved State EAS plans should clarify who these officials are and ensure that such activations are protected against accidental or improper use.